

**Washington, DC** – U.S. Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23) announced that seven counties in the 23<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District will receive a combined \$6 million in Operation Stonegarden grants to bolster law enforcement efforts along the border.

“This is great news for our border county officials who work hard every day to make the residents of our district safe,” said Congressman Ciro Rodriguez. “These funds, which supplement another \$6 million in Stonegarden money our district received in June, will help combat violence and illegal activity in the border region.

The seven counties in the 23<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District and amounts received are:

El Paso County - \$642,844

Jeff Davis County - \$927,849

Presidio County - \$921,570

Brewster County - \$920,315

Kinney County - \$878,991

Val Verde County - \$878,991

Maverick County - \$878,681

Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Janet Napolitano announced Wednesday an additional \$30 million in Operation Stonegarden grants to support security initiatives along the entire Southwest border to enhance coordination with state, local and tribal law enforcement to deter violence, enforce immigration laws and combat illegal trafficking.

More than 84 percent of fiscal year 2009 Operation Stonegarden funds will go to the Southwest border—up from 59 percent in fiscal year 2008.

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